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Message Text

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45
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 STR-08 SAJ-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9271
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR EWTC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT EGEN ECON RO
SUBJECT: HOUSECLEANING IN CRAIOVA; CEAUSESCU SPEECH TO
ROMANIAN INDUSTRIALISTS

REF: BUCHAREST A-155 (NOTAL)

1. LAST MONTH'S STINGING ATTACK BY CEAUSESCU ON CRAIOVA PARTY AND ECONOMIC OFFICIALS (REFAIR), ACCUSED OF FALSE REPORTING AND OTHER "GRAVE VIOLATIONS," HAS BEEN FOLLOWED UP BY A SMALL-SCALE BUT HIGH-LEVEL HOUSECLEANING. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS JUNE 23, PARTY COMMITTEES OF DOLJ JUDET AND THE "ELECTROPUTERE" FACTORY HAVE REQUESTED REMOVAL "WITH VOTE OF CENSURE AND WARNING" OF VICTOR IONESCU, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INDUSTRIAL CENTRAL WHICH RUNS "ELECTROPUTERE." ALSO TO BE REMOVED ARE LIVIU TANASESCU, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL AND MANAGER OF "ELECTRO-
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PUTERE;" NICOLAE LEFTER, THE CENTRAL'S FINANCIAL MANAGER; AND

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CONSTANTIU BARBU, SECRETARY OF THE PLANT'S PARTY COMMITTEE.

2. WITH THE CRAIOVA CASE BEHIND HIM TO SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE AND WARNING TO THOSE WHO MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO GO ASTRAY, CEAUSESCU APPARENTLY FELT HE COULD AFFORD TO ADOPT A SOMEWHAT MORE SUBDUED TONE AT A RECENT MEETING OF OVER 3000 ROMANIAN ECONOMIC OFFICIALS. MOST OF THEM TOP EXECUTIVES AND MANAGERS OF INDUSTRIAL CENTRALS AND STATE ENTERPRISES. HELD PARTLY TO MARK THE BEGINNING FIVE YEARS AGO OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ROMANIA'S INDUSTRY INTO CENTRALS, THE TWO-DAY MEETING CLOSED JULY 2 WITH THE CUSTOMARY LENGTHY SPEECH BY CEAUSESCU. ALTHOUGH IN FACT CONCENTRATING ON "SHORT-COMINGS" AND "DEFICIENCIES," CEAUSESCU DID BEGIN ON AN UPBEAT, CONCEDING THAT, IN GENERAL, TASKS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT WELL, AND HIS PUBLISHED CRITICISMS, ALTHOUGH NUMEROUS, WERE LESS POINTED OR SEVERE THAN IN THE DOLJ SPEECH. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JULY 2 SPEECH FOLLOW.

3. CENTRAL AUTHORITIES WILL RETAIN TIGHT CONTROL OVER EXPENDITURES AND INVESTMENTS OF INDUSTRIAL CENTRALS. CEAUSESCU SLAPPED DOWN A REQUEST FROM "SOME COMRADES" FOR GREATER AUTONOMY FOR INDUSTRIAL CENTRALS BY POINTING TO PAST ABUSES, SUCH AS DIVERSION OF AUTONOMOUS INVESTMENT FUNDS INTO CONSTRUCTION OF MORE COMFORTABLE OFFICES.

4. CENTRALS HAVE GRADUALLY BEEN REDUCED IN NUMBER FROM A HIGH OF 207 TO 102, AND OF THE REMAINING 102 ONLY 58 ARE REALLY NATIONAL CENTRALS, PRODUCING BOTH FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION AND EXPORT. MANAGEMENT MANPOWER OF THE CENTRALS HAS BEEN CUT BACK FROM 34,000 TO 15,000 AND APPARENTLY ANOTHER EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO DISLODGE OFFICIALS FROM BUCHAREST, WHERE CEAUSESCU NOTED TOO MANY TEND TO GATHER, AND INTEGRATE THEM MORE CLOSELY WITH ACTUAL PRODUCTION.

5. SALARIES OF WORKERS IN THE TEXTILE AND MACHINE-BUILDING INDUSTRIES, TEACHERS, MILITARY OFFICERS, AND "OFFICERS" IN THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR (WHICH WOULD INCLUDE POLICE, MILITIA AND SECURITATE) ARE TO BE RAISED AS OF AUGUST 1.

6. GROWTH RATE FOR THE NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN (1976-80) WILL BE ABOUT 10 PERCENT. CEAUSESCU NOTED THAT FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS
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OF 1974, PRODUCTION ROSE BY 15 PERCENT, FOREIGN TRADE BY 37 PERCENT, AND INVESTMENT BY 20 PERCENT. ACCORDING TO THE 1974 PLAN, GOALS WERE 16.7 PERCENT, 41.3 PERCENT, AND 18.1 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY.
BARNES

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